

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 ACDA-07 ERDA-05
AF-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NASA-01 NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01
PRS-01 OES-06 SS-15 USIA-06 /125 W
-----290959Z 039454 /12

R 282335Z APR 77
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3358
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION NATO

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PARM, UN
SUBJECT: SPECIAL SESSION ON DISARMAMENT: LIKELY ISSUES AT
SECOND PREPCOM MEETING.

1. SUMMARY. RECENT CONVERSATIONS WITH OTHER DELS
INDICATE GENERAL EXPECTATION THAT SECOND MEETING OF
SPECIAL SESSION PREPCOM WILL NOT GO MUCH BEYOND
DEVELOPMENT OF SKELETAL AGENDA FOR THE SESSION ALONG
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LINES PROPOSED IN NON-ALIGNED "INFORMATION PAPER."
SOME NON-ALIGNED EXPECT PROTRACTED FIGHT OVER AGENDA
AS RESULT OF ANTICIPATED SOVIET EFFORT TO HAVE "CON-
VENING OF A WORLD DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE" IDENTIFIED
AS A SPECIAL AGENDA TOPIC. ASIDE FROM AGENDA, ONLY
GENERALLY EXPECTED ISSUES ARE (A) DECISION ON NGO ROLE,
(B) FURTHER SUPPORT WORK BY SECRETARIAT, AND (C)

SCHEDULING OF FURTHER PREPCOM WORK. THESE SHOULD NOT PROVE EXCEPTIONALLY DIFFICULT. COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN HOPES TO CONDUCT WORK IN INFORMAL MEETINGS AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE, WITH FORMAL MEETINGS USED FOR GENERAL DEBATE AND RATIFICATION OF AGREEMENTS REACHED INFORMALLY. END SUMMARY.

2. RECENT CONVERSATIONS WITH SEVERAL OTHER DELS, INCLUDING UK, AUSTRALIA, SWEDEN, EGYPT, AUSTRIA, AND ARGENTINA, REVEAL A GENERAL EXPECTATION THAT BULK OF COMMITTEE'S MAY 9 TO 20 MEETING WILL BE DEVOTED TO DEVELOPMENT OF DRAFT AGENDA FOR THE SPECIAL SESSION. TEN-MEMBER NON-ALIGNED CORE GROUP PLANS TO SUBMIT, AS A WORKING PAPER, THE AGENDA RECOMMENDED IN THE NON-ALIGNED "INFORMATION PAPER" (REF A); I.E., ESSENTIALLY (A) REVIEW AND ASSESSMENT OF THE CURRENT INTERNATIONAL SITUATION, (B) ADOPTION OF A DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES, (C) ADOPTION OF A PROGRAM OF ACTION, AND (D) REVIEW OF THE ROLE OF THE UN AND DISARMAMENT MECHANISMS, "INCLUDING THE QUESTION OF CONVENING OF WDC."

3. SOME NON-ALIGNED DELS EXPECT THE SOVIETS AND THEIR ALLIES TO WAGE A STRONG FIGHT TO UPGRADE THE STATUS OF WDC BY MAKING IT A SEPARATE AGENDA ITEM, GIVING IT GREATER PROMINENCE, AND USING LANGUAGE SUCH AS "NEED TO CONVENE" RATHER THAN NEUTRAL PHRASE "QUESTION OF CONVENING." MANY LEADING NON-ALIGNED STILL PROFESS DETERMINATION TO RESIST SUCH EFFORTS, ALTHOUGH THE FIRMNES OF THIS DETERMINATION HAS NOT YET BEEN PUT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TO THE TEST.

4. ON THE NGO QUESTION, NO SERIOUS CHALLENGE IS EXPECTED TO THE CONSERVATIVE FORMULA DEVELOPED BY THE COMMITTEE'S BUREAU (REF B) AFTER THE LAST MEETING. THE CHAIRMAN AND RAPPOREUR PLAN TO PREPARE A FORMAL STATEMENT TO BE READ, FOLLOWING CONSULTATIONS WITH OTHER DELEGATIONS, AS THE COMMITTEE'S "DECISION" ON THE QUESTION.

5. WITH RESPECT TO FURTHER SUPPORT WORK TO BE DONE BY THE SECRETARIAT, WE KNOW OF NO PLANS FROM ANY QUARTER TO PRESS FOR STUDIES ON SPECIFIC DISARMAMENT ISSUES, EITHER BY SECRETARIAT ITSELF OR BY GOVERNMENTAL EXPERTS UNDER SYG'S AUSPICES. MAIN OBSTACLE TO SUCH STUDIES IS LACK OF MONEY, AND FEW DELEGATIONS HAVE SHOWN ANY WILLINGNESS TO CONSIDER ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR SPECIAL SESSION PREPARATIONS.

6. HOWEVER, NON-ALIGNED GROUP DOES PLAN TO PROPOSE

THAT SECRETARIAT PREPARE A "THEMATIC" ACCOUNT OF NATIONAL RESPONSES TO SYG'S REQUEST FOR VIEWS, WHICH COULD BE DONE WITHIN EXISTING RESOURCES. A SIMILAR PROJECT WAS UNDERTAKEN LAST YEAR FOR THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON THE UN ROLE IN DISARMAMENT.

7. COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN ORTIZ DE ROZAS REPORTEDLY HOPES TO MINIMIZE GENERAL DEBATE AT MEETING AND WILL URGE DELS NOT TO REITERATE THEIR RESPONSES TO THE SYG SIMPLY TO PUT THEM IN THE SUMMARY RECORDS. HE WILL PROPOSE THAT, WHEN THE SPEAKERS' LIST HAS BEEN EXHAUSTED AT EACH MEETING, THE COMMITTEE TRANSFORM ITSELF INTO AN INFORMAL WORKING GROUP OF THE WHOLE (WITHOUT RECORDS) TO WORK OUT THE AGENDA AND OTHER ISSUES. WHEN AGREEMENT IS REACHED IN INFORMAL MEETINGS, COMMITTEE WILL MEET TO CONFIRM AGREEMENT ON THE RECORD. IF ALL ISSUES ARE SETTLED IN THIS WAY BEFORE SCHEDULED END OF SESSION, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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INFORMAL MEETINGS COULD BE USED FOR PRELIMINARY EXCHANGE OF VIEW ON ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED UNDER EACH AGENDA ITEM AT THE SPECIAL SESSION.

8. AS FAR AS POSSIBLE INTERSESSIONAL WORKING GROUP MEETINGS ARE CONCERNED, MOST DELEGATIONS WOULD PREFER TO MAKE DECISION ON THIS ONLY AT END OF MAY MEETINGS, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE DEGREE OF MOMENTUM DEVELOPED.

9. COMMENT. IT APPEARS LESS AND LESS LIKELY THAT UPCOMING MEETINGS OF PREPCOM WILL VENTURE INTO DETAILED SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS OF ISSUES TO BE DEALT WITH AT SPECIAL SESSION OR THAT NEGOTIATIONS WILL BEGIN IN NEAR FUTURE ON "PRELIMINARY DRAFTS" OF ELEMENTS OF THE SESSION'S FINAL DOCUMENTS. SINCE THE ISSUES TO BE DEALT WITH ARE FAIRLY MODEST AND SINCE MOST OF THE WORK WILL BE INFORMAL, WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT A LARGE U.S. DELEGATION TO THE UPCOMING MEETINGS WILL BE NECESSARY OR DESIRABLE. WE BELIEVE MISSION STAFF IS SUFFICIENT TO MEET THE NEEDS, WITH UNDERSTANDING THAT WE MAY CALL FOR ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE IF NECESSARY. END COMMENT.
LEONARD

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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 28-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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